

REMARKS

The Office Action having a Notification Date of October 9, 2007, has been received and reviewed. Claims 2-7, 10-13, 17-20, and 24 are amended in accordance with the Notice of Allowable Subject Matter. No claims added in this paper. Accordingly, claims 2-7, 10-13, 17-20, 24 and 25 remain in the case before the Examiner. Reconsideration is requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102:

The rejection of claims 1, 14, and 21-23 variously under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is avoided in view of the cancellation of such rejected claims. This rejection should now be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 103:

The rejection of claims 8, 9, and 14-18 variously under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is avoided in view of the cancellation of claims 8, 9, and 14-16, and by changing claims 17 and 18 to depend from claim 19, which is believed to now be placed into condition for immediate allowance. This rejection should now be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS:

Notice of Allowable Subject Matter present in claims 2-7, 10-13, 19, 20, 24 and 25 is appreciated. In accordance with such Notice, base claim 1 is canceled, and all of its elements are incorporated into claim 2, thereby forming a new base claim believed to be allowable. Claims 3-7 variously depend from claim 2, and are therefore believed to now be in condition for allowance.

Because there are no intervening claims, claims 10-12 are made independent in this paper by incorporating all elements from their base claim. Therefore, claims 10-12 are believed to be allowable, in harmony with the Notice. Claim 13 is changed to depend from new base claim 12, and is thereby believed to now be in condition for immediate allowance.

Claim 19 is changed to incorporate all elements present in its base claim 14, and both intervening claims 15 and 16, thereby forming a new base claim believed to be allowable.

Claims 17, 18, and 20 are changed to depend from new base claim 19, and are therefore believed to now be in condition for allowance.

Claim 24 is changed to incorporate all elements present in its base claim 21 and intervening claims 22 and 23, thereby forming a new base claim believed to be allowable. Of note, the "conduit" location of the deformable wire previously set forth in claim 23 has been clarified as being in a lumen of the multi-lumen conduit recited in base claim 24. Depending claim 25 also includes the elements incorporated into claim 24, and is therefore believed to now be in condition for allowance.

Applicant requests that the instant amendment be entered and that a Notice of Allowance be issued for the pending claims. If any questions or issues remain which might most conveniently be resolved by telephone interview, FAX, or by e-mail, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact applicant's representative at the contact information listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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